The Heart of Paul's Theology

Essay Questions

LESSON ONE

PAUL AND HIS THEOLOGY



Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

Essay Questions

1. Explain how Paul's Jewish culture influenced him and his theology.

2. Explain how Paul's Gentile culture influenced him and his theology.

3.	Why is it important to see Paul's Jewish, as well as his Gentile, cultural background when understanding Paul's theology?

4. Explain how Paul's apostolic office gave him authority and legitimacy.

5.	What key events took place during each of Paul's missionary journeys as well as his trip to Rome?

6. What was the main purpose of Paul's writings?

7.	How did the various aspects of Paul's apostolic ministry enhance one another?
8.	Explain how the Reformation and the controversies Paul faced parallel each other.

9. Describe Paul's eschate	ology.

10. What were the implications of Paul's eschatology for Christians living during the time of the Reformation and for those living in the modern world?

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LESSON TWO

PAUL AND THE GALATIANS



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Essay Questions

Describe the purpose and route of Paul's first missionary journey.

1.

2. What were the specific problems in Galatia that motivated Paul to write them?

3.	How does an understanding of Paul's first missionary journey and of the specific
	problems in Galatia help you understand the things that Paul wrote?

4. In Galatians 1:6-10, why did Paul insist that to reject his teaching was to accept a false gospel?

5.	Explain how the three historical events of Paul's call and training, his meeting
	with leaders, and his conflict with Peter aided Paul in proving his authority.

6. Explain the direct theological arguments that Paul offered for his doctrine of justification by faith in Galatians 3:1–4:31.

In Galatians 5:1–6:10, how did Paul address the problems that arose from false teachers, and what were his specific exhortations?
How did Paul's description of Christ appeal to his doctrine of the latter days?

9.	Why did Paul call the false teacher's gospel a different gospel or no gospel at all?
10.	How did Paul explain the purpose of the law to the Galatians?

11.	Explain how Paul's argument of union with Christ related to his eschatology.
12.	What was Paul's perspective on the role of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life?

13. How did Paul emphasize that living in the new creation is to be the preeminent concern of every believer?

The Heart of Paul's Theology

Essay Questions

LESSON THREE

PAUL AND THE THESSALONIANS



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Essay Questions

1. Where did Paul travel on his second missionary journey and what was the purpose of his trip?

2. What three main problems plagued the Thessalonians, and what were the ramifications?

3.	How do Paul's second missionary journey and the problems in Thessalonica help
	us understand Paul's motivation for writing?

4. Explain Paul's purpose in writing his first letter to the Thessalonians and the main points he sought to communicate to them.

5.	Explain Paul's purpose in writing his second letter to the Thessalonians and the
	main points he sought to communicate to them.

6. Compare the purposes behind 1 & 2 Thessalonians. How are they similar and how are they different?

7.	How did Paul's doctrine of salvation address the Thessalonians' overheated
	eschatology?

8. How did Paul's emphasis on ethical Christian living relate to the Thessalonians' future salvation?

9.	Describe the historical position of the Thessalonians in terms of the events that
	must precede Christ's return.

10. Explain how Paul's eschatology framed his theological outlooks.

The Heart of Paul's Theology

Essay Questions

LESSON FOUR

PAUL AND THE CORINTHIANS



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Essay Questions

1. Where did Paul travel and what was the purpose of his third missionary journey?

2. Explain the four main problems plaguing the Corinthians, and the ramifications that resulted.

3.	Explain how Paul's third missionary journey and the problems in Corinth shed
	light on why Paul wrote to the Corinthians.

4. Explain Paul's purpose in writing his first letter to the Corinthians and the main points he sought to communicate to them.

5.	Explain Paul's purpose in writing his second letter to the Corinthians and the
	main points he sought to communicate to them.

6. Compare the purposes for Paul's writing 1 and 2 Corinthians. How are they similar and how are they different?

7.	What error had the Corinthians made regarding faith and the preeminence of
	Christ?

8. How did Paul instruct the Corinthians regarding hope?

9.	Explain how Paul described love as an eschatological virtue, and how it should
	impact relationships in this life.

10. Summarize the key ways in which Paul called the Corinthians to reevaluate their over-realized eschatology.